



**TO:** Mayor Shawn Sipma  
Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Chief Jason Olson

**DATE:** November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR TAXI LICENSE DENIAL – ISRAEL TORRES**

**I. RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The City Council ratifies the decision to deny a City of Minot Taxi Driver’s License to Israel Torres based on his disqualifying status as a sex offender who is required to register.

**II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS**

Jason Olson, Chief of Police

**III. DESCRIPTION**

Background

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Israel Torres filed an application for a City of Minot Taxi Driver’s License. A background check was conducted which revealed that Mr. Torres is required to register as a sex offender. Based on this he is ineligible for a City of Minot Taxi license based on ordinance 30-53 (b)(2) and his license application was denied.

City of Minot Ordinance 30-53 states as follows:

Sec. 30-53. - Obtaining a license.

- (a) Each applicant for a license required by this division shall:
  - (1) Possess a valid and current North Dakota driver's license;
  - (2) Fill out an application form to be provided by the chief of police and filed with the city as a permanent record; and
  - (3) Undergo a background examination.
- (b) An applicant shall be denied a license if the background examination reveals:
  - (1) That the applicant would present a threat to the health, morals, or welfare of the community;
  - (2) Evidence of sex offenses within the last ten (10) years, or the requirement under the North Dakota law to register as a sex offender;
  - (3) Evidence of violent criminal activity within the last ten (10) years;
  - (4) Evidence of criminal activity involving the use of a motor vehicle within the last ten (10) years;
  - (5) Evidence of criminal activity marked by fraudulent or deceitful behavior within the last ten (10) years; or
  - (6) Prior revocation of a license issued under this division;
  - (7) Any other just cause for denying the application.

**IV. IMPACT:**

None

**V. ALTERNATIVES**

No alternative exists within current City ordinance.

**VI. TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Ordinance 30-58 gives Mr. Torres a right to have a hearing appealing this matter to the City Council within 30 days of the decision to deny his license application. A letter stating the reason for denial of his application was hand delivered to Mr. Torres on November 13<sup>th</sup> by Lt. Dale Plessas. The letter contained the a time and date of a public hearing on this matter of December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 in the City Council chambers before this Council.

**VII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

Israel Torres – Taxi License application  
Letter of intent to deny license